

Message Text

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14
ACTION IO-13

INFO OCT-01 AF-08 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 CU-02

INR-07 NSAE-00 USIA-06 PA-01 PRS-01 L-03 /064 W
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P R 230702Z OCT 76
FM AMEMBASSY TUNIS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4678
INFO AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

C O N F I D E N T I A L TUNIS 7476

PARIS FOR UNESCO

NAIROBI FOR UNESCO DELEGATION

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: UNESCO TS
SUBJECT: UNESCO: TUNISIAN DRAFT RESOLUTION ON FREE-FLOW
OF INFORMATION

REF: STATE 257207 AND PREVIOUS

1. TUNISIAN PERMREP TO UNESCO, AMBASSADOR ZMERLI CALLED AT EMBASSY TODAY (OCTOBER 22) TO DISCUSS TUNISIAN DRAFT RESOLUTION ON MASS MEDIA. HE SAID THAT FOLLOWING MEETING WITH MEMBERS US DEL TO UNESCO, HE REVISED HIS DRAFT INCLUDING "90 PERCENT OR MORE" U.S. SUGGESTIONS. HE STATED THAT HE THOUGHT DRAFT WAS NOW A GOOD ONE. THAT IT SHOULD RECEIVE WIDE THIRD WORLD SUPPORT, AND THAT IT HAD GOOD CHANCES OF BEING ACCEPTED AT NAIROBI MEETINGS.

2. ZMERLI THEN TURNED TO ANOTHER TOPIC IN WHICH HE IS DEEPLY INTERESTED BECAUSE OF HIS BACKGROUND AS A PHYSICIST, AND THAT WAS THE TUNISIAN DRAFT (DOCUMENT NUMBER 19 C/DR 14) ON SCIENTIFIC, TECHNICAL AND PROFESSIONAL TRAINING. HE SAID THAT PRIME MINISTER NOUIRA PERSONALLY WAS INTERESTED IN THIS PROPOSAL, AND THAT IT WAS HOPED
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THE U.S. COULD SUPPORT THE TUNISIAN INITIATIVE IN NAIROBI.

ZMERLI NOTED HE HAD MADE SIMILAR INFORMAL APPROACH TO MR. WARVARIO IN PARIS. EMBASSY OFFICER SAID AMBASSADOR'S REQUEST WOULD BE REPORTED TO APPROPRIATE PARTIES. ZMERLI EXPRESSED APPRECIATION FOR THIS ATTENTION SAYING THAT "OF COURSE TUNISIAN COOPERATION ON MASS MEDIA ISSUE IS NO WAY TIED TO OUR REQUEST FOR U.S. SUPPORT ON TRAINING RESOLUTION."

3. ZMERLI EMPHASIZED HIS VISIT TO EMBASSY WAS A PERSONAL ONE AND THAT MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS WOULD PROBABLY MAKE FORMAL REPRESENTATION TO EMBASSY NEXT WEEK. WE HAVE NOT BEEN APPROACHED ON THIS SUBJECT YET, BUT IF GOT IS AS INTERESTED IN TRAINING ISSUE AS ZMERLI STATES, TUNISIANS WILL NO DOUBT LOOK FOR U.S. SUPPORT IN "PARTIAL RESPONSE TO GOT "COOPERATION" ON MASS MEDIA ISSUE.
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